

Message Text

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11
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 882
SECDEF WSHDC
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ROME
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 1710

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: FLANK SECURITY

REF: USNATO 1483 DTG 181017Z MAR

1. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS THE TEXT OF DEMARCHE ON FLANK SECURITY,
SLIGHTLY REVISED FROM TEXT IN REFTEL IN LIGHT OF RECENT
SPC MEETINGS, WHICH CHARGE INTENDS TO MAKE WITH ITALIAN
DELEGATION. MISSION HAS MADE SOME OF THESE POINTS ORALLY WITH
FRG REP, BUT DOES NOT BELIEVE IT NECESSARY TO MAKE DEMARCHE
WITH FRG IN VIEW OF RUTH CONVERSATION AT ACDA.

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2. BEGIN TEXT:

THE SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF NATO HAS RESUMED
ITS WORK ON GUIDANCE TO THE ALLIED ADHOC GROUP IN VIENNA

ON FLANK SECURITY.

THE ONLY REMAINING SUBSTANTIVE POINT AT ISSUE IN
THE GUIDANCE CONCERNS HOW THE ALLIES WILL DESCRIBE TO THE EAST
THE DEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS WHERE U.S. AND SOVIEIT FORCES
WITHDRAWN IN PHASE I WOULD NOT REDEPLOY. THE SENTENCE IN
QUESTION IN THE GUIDANCE IS AS FOLLOWS:
"FORCES WITHDRAWN ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT AGREEMENT
WILL NOT BE REDEPLOYED
(IN GEOPGRAPHICAL REGIONS)
SINT THE AREAS CONTINGUOUS TO THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS
AND TO THE TERRITORIES OF PARTICIPANTS HAVING A
SPECIAL STATUS)

WHERE THEIR ADDED PRESENCE WOULD EITHER INFRINGE UPON THE
PRINCIPLE THAT FORCE REDUCTIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE SHOULD NOT
DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF THOSE COUNTRIES HAVING PARTICIPATED
IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPECIAL STATUS OR CIRCUMVENT THE
OBJECTIVE PURSUED IN THIS AGREEMENT OF ENHANCING STABILITY AND
SECURITY IN EUROPE."

THIS SENTENCE IS PART OF THE BELGIAN COMPROMISE PROPOSAL
SUBMITTED LAST FALL. THE FIRST BRACKETED PHRASE IS THE ORIGINAL
LANGUAGE ON GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS. THE SECOND BRACKETED PHRASE
IS AN AMENDMENT, WHICH SEEKS TO DEFNIE THOSE REGIONS MORE
PRECISELY.

THE U.S. CONSIDERS BOTH PHRASES TO BE SERIOUS, WELL-CONSIDERED
CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALLIED WORK ON GUIDANCE TO THE AD HOC GROUP ON
FLANK SECURITY. HOWEVER, THE U.S. CONSIDERS THAT THE FIRST
BRACKETED PHRASE HAS A SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGE IN AVOIDING
ANY IMPLICATION THAT THERE ARE EXACT, DEFINABLE GEOGRAPHIC
LIMITS TO AREAS WHERE REDEPLOYMENT OF WITHDRAWN FORCES WOULD
DIMINISH SECURITY. THE U.S. NOTES THAT THE SECOND BRACKETED
PHRASE WOULD IMPOSE A SPECIFIC CONSTRAINT ON MOVEMENTS OF
SOVIET FORCES IN SOVIET TERRITOY. THIS WULD BE EXTEMELY
DIFFICULT TO DEGOTIATE, AND MAY BE NONNEGOTIABLE. IN
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ADDITION, IF THE SOVIETS DID NEGOTIATE ON THIS BASIS, THERE
IS THE DANGER OF RECIPROCAL LIMITATIONS ON MOVEMENTS OF
ALLIED FORCES OUTSIDE THE AREA OF REDUCTIONS, WHICH WOULD
BROADEN THE GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS OF THE NEGOTIATION, AND
WHICH WOULD NOT BE TOLERABLE FOR NATO. THE U.S., FOR THESE
REASONS, SUPPORTS THE FIRST BRACKZED PHRASE.

THE SECOND BRACKETED PHRASE, IN RESTRICTING THE REDEPLOYMENT
OF WITHDRAWN SOVIET FORCES TO AREAS CONTIGUS TO THE REDUCTIONS
AREA, WOULD APPLY NOT ONLY TO THE FLANKS, BUT ALSO TO HUNGARY.
THE U.S. AGREES WITH ITALYWHAT THE ALLIES MUST SEEK TO PREVENT
SOVIET FORCE INCREASES IN HUNGARY, IN CIRCUMVENTION OF AN AMBR
AGREEMENT, BU MEANS WHICH DO NOT IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ONIALY.

THE U.S. WISHES TO ASSURE ITALY OF ITS INTENTION TO SUPPORT APPROPRIATE NON-CIRCUMVENTION LANGUAGE AT A LATER DATE AFTER THE OUTLINE OF A REDUCTION AGREEMENT HAS TAKEN SHAPE IN THE NEGOTIATION.

THE U.S. CONSIDERS THAT THE FIRST BRACKETED PHRASE PROVIDES AN APPROPRIATE STANDARD FOR SAFEGUARDING THE SECURITY OF THE FLANKS, WITHOUT RESTRICTING ALLIED FLEXIBILITY. THE U.S. HOPES THAT ITALY CAN SUPPORT THE FIRST BRACKETED PHRASE, IN THE INTEREST OF EARLY COMPLETION OF SPC AND NAC WORK ON GUIDANCE ON FLANK SECURITY, TO ENABLE THE AD HOC GROUP TO MAKE CLEAR TO THE OTHER SIDE THAT MBFR MUST NOT DIMINISH THE SECURITY OF THE FLANK COUNTRIES.

END TEXT
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